

Here are some of the Strategies for Early Educators and Strategies for Families for the subdomain Expressive Language. We believe these would help the teacher address the given scenario and CHANGE PRACTICE to better meet the needs of children, and to align better with the expectations for what children begin to do in prekindergarten.

Strategies for Early Educators

- Create an environment of trust and support in which children feel free to express themselves.
- Provide opportunities for children to engage in dialogue, through frequent one-to-one conversations, small group interactions with adults, and with other children.
- Encourage children to describe their family, home, community, and classroom.
- Support children's use of their home language, gestures, communication devices, sign language, and pictures to communicate.
- Ask open-ended questions that encourage conversation.
- Expand on what children say by adding information, explanations, and descriptions.

Strategies for Families

- Encourage children to express their thoughts and feelings.
- Provide opportunities for your child to talk in social situations with adults and other children.
- Talk daily about everyday events and activities.
- Use descriptive language. If your child observes, "That's a dog," respond "Yes, that is a big, white dog."
- Set an example for good speech and language. Use complete sentences and pronounce words correctly.
- Support children's use of gestures, communication devices, sign language, and pictures as needed to communicate.

Here are a few relevant strategies from the one of the other subdomains within Language Development and Communication – Expressive Language:

Strategies for Early Educators

- Provide opportunities throughout the day for children to talk, share, and discuss stories and interact with each other and with adults.

- Engage children in one-on-one conversations; listen and respond to what they are saying.
- Model and provide opportunities for children to communicate in different ways (e.g., home languages and also manual signs, gestures, and devices).

Strategies for Families

- Talk with your children. Engaging in conversations whenever and wherever you are together helps them understand increasingly complex language and words.
- Help children understand and appreciate that communication occurs in many ways, through languages that are different from your own and also through manual signs, gestures, and devices.

And some strategies from Foundations for Writing:

Strategies for Early Educators

- Encourage children to retell experiences and events that are important to them through pictures and dictation.
- Write down what children say and share those dictated writings with them.

Strategies for Families

- Encourage children to retell experiences and describe ideas and events that are important to them.